

Remarks

Claims 1-6, 8-13, and 16-17 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 6 and 8 have been amended, and claims 7 and 14-15 have been cancelled. No new matter is believed added. Reconsideration and allowance are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 14-15 have been cancelled in response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

Claims 1-3, 5-13, and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Yamamoto (US 5,515,074) in view of Conover et al. (US 6,414,664 B1), hereafter “Conover.” Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Yamamoto and Conover, and further in view of Inoue (US 5, 517,212). These rejections are defective because Yamamoto, Conover, and Inoue, taken alone or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature set forth in the claims as required by 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Regarding independent claim 1, the Examiner admits that “Yamamoto does not show the driver circuit is operative to adjust the adjustable characteristic based on the combined effect of both the basic setting and the correction factor.” To overcome this glaring deficiency of Yamamoto, the Examiner relies on the teachings of Conover. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that Conover “teaches the driver circuit ... is operative to adjust the adjustable characteristic based on the combined effect of both the basic setting (variables 160) ... and the correction factor (variables 240).” Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s conclusion.

Contrary to the allegations of the Examiner, Conover does provide a stored correction factor for adjusting the stored basic setting of the adjustable characteristic of a driver circuit as set forth in claim 1. The variables 240 of Conover, which the Examiner has equated with the claimed correction factor, are not stored as set forth in claim 1. Rather, the variables 240 are user-controlled (see, e.g., “user-controlled viewing angle,” col. 8, lines 58-60, “user-adjustable gain characteristics,” col. 9, lines 7-10, “contrast as determined by the operator,” col. 9, lines 25-26, and “viewer controls the contrast by adjusting a contrast control input device,” col. 10, lines 16-18). Accordingly, since neither Yamamoto nor Conover teach or suggest at least the claimed stored correction factor, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, and claims 2-5 and 9, which are dependent on claim 1, are allowable.

Independent claims 6 and 10 contain features similar to claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that all pending claims 1-6, 8-13, and 16-17 are allowable.

If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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